

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A method for use in a router (10) of configuring a routing path to an address in an IP network using a routing control unit (1) separate from the router (10), the method comprising the steps of:
 - a) the router (10) sending the routing control unit (1) a routing path to said address (21);
 - b) the routing control unit (1) sending the router (10) a validation message (22); and
 - c) configuring the selected routing path in the router (10).
2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the router (10) selects the routing path sent in step a) as a function of information (20) received by the router and concerning routing to said address.
3. (Original) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the routing control unit (1) executes step b) at a time determined as a function of the state of the traffic in the network.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the routing control unit (1) executes step b) after a data stream to be delivered to said address for which resources have been reserved along a path across the network has passed through the router (10).

5. (Original) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the routing control unit (1) executes step b) after instigating further reservation of resources along the selected routing path in the network for a data stream to be delivered to said address for which resources have already been reserved along a path across the network.

6. (Original) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that step c) further comprises the router (10) sending (23) the selected routing path to at least one other router.

7. (Original) An IP router comprising:

- means (11) for selecting a routing path to an IP address;
- means for sending the selected routing path (21) over the network;
- means for receiving via the network a message (22) validating the selected routing path;

and

- means (13) for configuring the selected routing path in the router on receiving a validation message in respect of said routing path.

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8. (Currently Amended) An IP network comprising at least a router (10) and a routing control unit (1) separate from the router, in which network the router and the control unit employ the method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~claim 1.

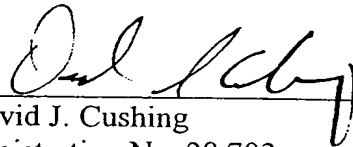
9. An IP network according to claim 8, characterized in that the control unit (1) and the router (10) communicate via the IP network.

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REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I, John Richard FLOOD-PADDOCK, Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Patent Agents, residing at 59 Freshfield Road, Brighton, East Sussex, England, declare;

1. That I am a citizen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
2. That I am well acquainted with the French and English languages.
3. That the attached is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, a true translation into the English language of the specification in French filed with the application for a patent in the U.S.A. on

under the number

4. That I believe that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the patent application in the United States of America or any patent issuing thereon.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "John Richard Flood-Paddock". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a short horizontal line.

For and on behalf of RWS Group plc

The 7th day of January 2004



F° 104561

**A METHOD OF CONFIGURING A ROUTING PATH
IN AN IP ROUTER AND NETWORK**

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